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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

**24 AUGUST 2016**

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#### (U) CALIFORNIA

##### **(U) Los Angeles – 5 Arrested in Human Trafficking Ring Across Central, Southern California**

(U) A taskforce of local, state and federal agencies assembled by the Ventura County Sheriff's Department uncovered an elaborate human trafficking network that allegedly delivered millions of dollars in wire transfers to China. The probe started when managers at upscale motels in Camarillo reported suspicious activity to the Ventura County Sheriff's Department. For six months, detectives followed the money trail to the secret headquarters in San Gabriel. They allege Dae Phong Hu acted as a dispatcher, sending women to various hotels in a nine county areas, where they would service clients seven days a week.

SOURCE: 23 August 2016, [ABC 7](#)

#### (U) NATIONAL

##### **(U) Florida – Zika Case Discovered Hundreds Of Miles From Miami**

(U) Pinellas County - Florida officials yesterday announced the first case of Zika transmitted by mosquitoes in Pinellas County, located 265 miles from Miami, where the first locally transmitted US cases were reported. A spokesman for Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County said the case involves a woman without a significant travel history, indicating the virus was contracted locally. He did not know the timeline on the case, only that it had been confirmed within the past day. Florida Governor Rick Scott said the state department of health has begun door-to-door outreach in Pinellas County, testing individuals to find other cases.

SOURCE: 23 August 2016, [Reuters](#)

##### **(U) New York – FBI Investigating Russian Hack of New York Times Reporters and Others**

(U) New York City - Hackers thought to be working for Russian intelligence have carried out a series of cyber breaches targeting reporters at the New York Times and other US news organizations, according to US officials briefed on the matter. The intrusions, detected in recent months, are under investigation by the FBI and other US security agencies. Investigators so far believe that Russian intelligence is likely behind the attacks. A spokeswoman for the Times said the company had seen "no evidence" that any breaches had occurred of the Times's internal systems.

SOURCE: 23 August 2016, [CNN](#)

##### **(U) North Carolina – Instagram Scam Preys On Bank Followers**

(U) Charlotte – A new report suggests thousands of Instagram users are falling for a scam that targets followers of financial institutions on the image-sharing platform. ZeroFox, a security company specialising in social media, says it has found more than two million public Instagram posts that push this kind of scam, known as money-flipping. The term refers to a con in which criminals convince their victims to hand over access to funds with the promise that they will multiply their value via a trick they know, in return for a share of the profits. They then flee with the sum, leaving their target out of pocket. The firm estimates that for every such account Instagram closes, three more appear in its place.

SOURCE: 24 August 2016, [BBC](#)

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**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY****(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Afghanistan – American University in Kabul under Attack, Reports Of Casualties**

(U) Kabul – A loud explosion followed by heavy gunfire has been heard at the American University in the Afghan capital of Kabul. Local officials and students reported gunmen opened fire inside the university, killing at least seven people and injuring dozens more. The senior interior ministry official said elite Afghan forces had surrounded the university compound and gunfire was continuing. Early reports were that several gunmen, some wearing suicide vests, were involved.

SOURCE: 24 August 2016, [BNO News](#)

**(U) Australia – Frenchman Stabs UK Woman to Death**

(U) Townsville – A 29-year-old Frenchman shouted "Allahu Akbar" as he stabbed a British woman to death and wounded two people at a backpackers' hotel in Australia, police said today. The man was in Australia on a valid tourist visa and had no known links to radical groups such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), which has urged its followers to carry out attacks with knives or other readily available weapons. British and Australian media identified the dead woman as Mia Ayliffe-Chung 21, who was in the country on a working holiday. A 30-year-old British man was in critical condition in hospital after the late Tuesday attack in Queensland state, south of the city of Townsville.

SOURCE: 24 August 2016, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Kazakhstan – 4 Arrested, Suspected of Planning Attacks**

(U) Astana – The National Security Committee said yesterday it carried out a special operation in Almaty, a city in southeastern Kazakhstan, that resulted in the arrests of four suspected members of a radical group that planned a series of attacks. In the operation conducted on 18 August, the committee foiled plans to attack its facilities and units, police and army bases. The investigation and search operations continue and further information will be released at a later date.

SOURCE: 23 August 2016, [Latin American Herald Tribune](#)

**(U) South Korea – North Korea Fires Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile Towards Japan**

(U) Seoul – North Korea fired a submarine-launched missile on Wednesday that flew about 311 miles towards Japan, a show of improving technological capability for the isolated country that has conducted a series of launches in defiance of UN sanctions. The ballistic missile was fired at around 5:30 a.m. (2030 GMT) from near the coastal city of Sinpo, where a submarine base is located. The projectile reached Japan's air defence identification zone.

SOURCE: 24 August 2016, [Reuters](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-874-1100.**

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